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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Kazunari Nakao, et al.

EXAMINER:

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FOR

: ARYL OR HETEROARYL FUSED IMIDAZOLE COMPOUNDS

AS ANTI-INFLAMMATORY AND ANALGESIC AGENTS

Preliminary Amendment

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the application as set forth below.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 32 of this paper.